

## VILLISTAS BEATEN IN FIERCE FIGHT

LOSSES SAID TO HAVE BEEN  
HEAVY WITH MANY CAS-  
UALTIES TAKEN.

### PREDICT EARLY WITHDRAWAL

Next Meeting of Commission Will  
Probably End Conference—  
Herrera Hanged Holding  
Picture to Breast.

Chihuahua City, Mexico.—Gen. Pablo Gonzalez, with de facto forces, defeated a column of Francisco Villa's followers at Pilar de Concho, 60 miles west of Santa Rosalia, and 40 miles north of Parral, it was officially announced here.

Many Villa prisoners were captured and the Villa losses were said to have been heavy. No date was given for the battle.

Following the announcement of the battle it was stated Gen. Gonzalez, who is a major general at Mexico City, will take command of the government forces operating against Villa during Gen. Francisco Murguía's temporary absence from the front on an official visit to Chihuahua City.

### Early Withdrawal.

Washington.—The next moves to be made by the United States in dealing with the de facto government of Mexico have been decided upon by President Wilson and will be announced after the next meeting in New York of the Mexican-American joint commission.

Withdrawal of the Pershing expedition across the American border and the sending of Ambassador Fletcher to Mexico City are understood to be the first steps that will be taken.

Secretary Lane and the other members of the American commission, Dr. J. R. Mott and Judge George Gray, will meet Carranza representatives in New York in what is expected to be the final session of the joint commission. Already the American commissioners have informed the Mexicans that in view of Carranza's repeated refusal to ratify the protocol signed at Atlantic City after almost three months' deliberation, they regard further conferences as useless. Their attitude is approved by the president.

### Herrera Hanged.

El Paso, Texas.—Foreign refugees, arriving here from Torreon confirmed reports of the execution of Gen. Luis Herrera, the Carranza commander. They said Gen. Herrera's body was hanged to a telegraph pole, with bundles of Carranza money in each hand and a picture of Gen. Carranza suspended from the body.

They said Villa levied forced loans of 50,000 pesos upon the Spanish residents of the city and 25,000 pesos each on the British and German residents. Sixty Chinese and four Arabs were killed by the Villa followers, they added.

### GREEK REPLY UNSATISFYING

Good as Far as It Goes, But Allies  
Say It Does Not Go Near  
Far Enough.

London, England.—The reply of Greece to the entente ultimatum not being entirely satisfactory, the Greek government will be informed that although its response is gratifying as far as it goes, a more definite renunciation is necessary. For example, the immediate release of Venizelist prisoners was demanded. The Greek reply agreed to the release, but did not stipulate when it should take place.

There is no question of a 15 days' delay regarding the carrying out of the demands, as has been reported in some quarters, and there is no intention to raise the blockade until the demands are conceded in full, it is declared.

### NO CHANCE FOR TRAINING LAW

Washington, D. C.—An effort to put the house military committee on record against universal military training failed, but resulted in the adoption of a resolution declaring that no radical change of military policy should be considered in framing this year's army appropriation bill.

While some of the members of congress and army officers most active in the movement for universal training had hoped for action at the present session, most of them now are convinced that the proposed legislation will not get beyond the committee stage by March 4.

Postal Telegraph Raise.  
New York.—The Postal Telegraph Cable Co. has announced a wage increase of 10 per cent to all employees throughout the country who were in the company's service January 1.

Singer Asks Naturalization.  
Philadelphia, Pa.—John McCormack, the singer, has applied to the federal court for American citizenship. In his petition he gave his age as 32 and his occupation as vocalist. He was born in Athlone, Ireland, and came to this country in 1904.

Thought to Be Matricide.  
Paola, Kan.—Hazel Spedman, 14 years old, found wounded beside the dead body of her mother in a barn, was arrested charged with murdering her mother.

Rear Admiral Sigbee, Ill.  
New York.—Rear Admiral Charles D. Sigbee, 72, retired, who commanded the battleship Maine when she was destroyed in Havana harbor, is recovering from an attack of pneumonia and the illness at his home.

## LITTLE SISTER JOY AT RED CROSS WORK



Dressed in a Red Cross uniform, Sister Joy, the five-year-old daughter of Dr. C. A. Macdonald, spends busy days in the wards of Duncavel, where she is a great favorite with everyone. Duncavel is the duke of Hamilton's shooting box in Scotland, and stands 800 feet high in the Ayrshire moor, an ideal spot for a hospital. It is for naval men only, and accommodates ten officers and ninety men.

## FEELS SURE OF SUPPORT PEOPLE INCREASE TOO FAST

ALLIES CONFIDENT THAT U. S.  
INDORSES STAND

Peace Desired Is Founded Upon  
Same Ideals Americans Cherish,  
Says London Times

London, England.—All doubt that the note sent to the United States aptly epitomizes England's position in the world war was removed in the chorus of public approbation.

The only hint of criticism came in a suggestion that strong as it was, some of its phrases had lost a vestige of vigor in the translation into English from the French text.

Newspaper editorials express belief that America could not fail to be impressed with the parallel outlined between the aims of the entente now and the liberty and freedom for which America stands.

"The peace which the allies desire," declares the Times, "is founded upon those doctrines of liberty, justice and inviolable fidelity to international engagements which Americans have always cherished and revered."

"The note embodies just such a statement as was made," declared the Daily News. "Whether peace is yet obtainable on these terms is for Germany to indicate. The present suggests that the time has not yet come. But at least the allies have closed no door."

The Daily Express holds the note to be "bold and thoroughly uncompromising." "There is no hope," the editorial continues, "that the enemy will accept the terms unless they have received a decisive military defeat. The war must go on."

### PLOT TO KILL HIRAM JOHNSON

Letters From Anarchists Revealing  
Assassination Plans Found in  
California.

San Francisco, California.—An anarchist plot to assassinate Gov. Hiram W. Johnson, United States senator-elect from California, were revealed in letters seized in the office of Alexander Berkman, several weeks ago, Assistant District Attorney Cunha told Judge Franklin A. Griffin in the Mooney murder trial.

"I found evidence in the letters," Pickert declared, "to prove that Berkman and others conspired to kill Gov. Johnson."

He was pleading with Judge Griffin not to permit the defense in the Mooney case to have access to letters which the court has impounded.

### ITALIAN SHIP IS SUBMARINED

Berlin, Germany.—Six hundred sailors aboard the Italian battleship Reina Margherita perished when that ship was destroyed off Valone by a mine or torpedo, the press bureau announced, referring to confirmation from the Baseler Anzeiger.

The destruction of a British cruiser of the Juno type by a direct hit of Turkish gunfire was reported in the Turkish official report received here. The ship was hit in the port of Meyers.

The statement said the "surprise gunfire" by which the cruiser was sunk had also broken the mast of a torpedo boat and damaged a patrol boat.

White Youth Sentenced.  
Ashdown, Ark.—Fred Edwards, a white youth of Texarkana, Ark., is under sentence of 99 years in state's prison for having attacked a negro girl. He was convicted in circuit court here.

Ohio Marshal Slain.  
Piqua, O.—Harvey Hake, 60, marshal of Covington, Ohio, was shot and killed by Bert Clark. Clark is guarded in the jail at Troy for fear a mob, which gathered at Covington, will attempt to lynch Clark.

Five Burned to Death.  
Montreal.—Four children and a maid of the family of Dr. J. H. Leblanc, a dentist, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their apartment above a moving picture theater.

Police Help Convicts.  
New York.—Seven hundred former convicts have been provided with employment by the New York police and given all possible assistance in their efforts to lead honest lives within the last year.

POPULATION OUTRUNNING FOOD  
SUPPLIES.

Secretary Houston Does Not Fear,  
However, That There Will Be  
Shortage of Eatables.

Washington, D. C.—The nation's food supply has not kept pace with the growth in population, figures furnished by the department of agriculture show. The statistics cover the last 10 years, in which the population has grown about 33 per cent, and disclosed that in foods constituting about 75 per cent of the country's diet there has been a decline in per capita production. Officials, however, do not fear that there will be a food shortage.

Secretary Houston in a statement said:

"With all the agencies now available for improving agriculture there is ground for optimism as to the ability of the nation not only to supply itself with food, but increasingly to meet the needs of the world."

Meat and dairy products furnish 37 per cent of the food that goes to the American table, and cereals 31 per cent. Production and consumption of fruit and vegetables have increased rapidly within the last few years.

### BOPP IS TO BE SUSPENDED

Convicted Consul to Be Sentenced  
Next Friday—Will Act as Official During Appeal.

Washington, D. C.—The state department may ask suspension of German Consul Bopp of San Francisco pending appeal of his case for conspiracy to a higher court, it was indicated at the state department.

The department, however, is not inclined to cancel its exequatur while the appeal is pending. Launching has the case officially before him.

Voluntary removal of Bopp from his position by the German government would close the case satisfactorily from a diplomatic standpoint.

The court set their sentences for next Friday and intimated that Bopp and Vice Consul Von Schaak, who have not been placed under bonds, will be ordered to give \$10,000 surety.

If Bopp and his associates are successful in beating their conviction in the higher courts they will be tried on a third indictment for using the mails to incite murder and arson.

United States District Attorney President announced.

### Confederate Ends Life

Palmyra, Mo.—George A. Milton, 79, of Palmyra, a Confederate veteran, was found dead in his home after taking carbolic acid. He lived alone and had not been seen since Tuesday. The body was frozen solid when found.

### Train Hits Car 4 Killed.

Rockford, Ill.—Three women and a man were killed and six injured when an Illinois Central freight train struck a street car at the South Main street crossing. None of the dead has been identified.

Fuel Shortage Stops Paris Tubes.  
Paris, France.—The postoffice authorities in order to save fuel have stopped the pneumatic tube service in Paris.

\$100,000 Fire in Dallas, Tex.  
Dallas, Texas.—Fire caused property damage estimated at \$100,000 when a three-story building at 1109 1102 Commerce street, occupied principally by printing concerns, was destroyed.

Armour & Co. Earn 20 Per Cent.  
Chicago.—The annual report of Armour & Co. shows net earnings of \$29,000,000, or 20 per cent on capital stock and 14.7 per cent on investment. In 1915 the net profits were \$18,000,000.

Dutch Purchase Airplanes.  
London.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Times says that the Dutch government has purchased several interned airplanes from the belligerent powers.

Certain "Ads" Barred.  
Washington.—Transmission in the mails of liquor advertisements, in circulars, newspapers or otherwise, which states which prohibit such advertising or solicitation, is barred by bill of Senator Bankhead passed by the senate.

## JAPANESE WARSHIP SINKS; 153 PERISH

FIRE ON VESSEL REACHES THE  
MAGAZINES AND EXPLOSION  
BRINGS TRAGEDY.

### MOST OF THE OFFICERS SAFE

Blast Takes Place in Harbor of  
Yokosuka, and 157 Are Seriously  
Injured—Compiment Was  
817 Men.

Tokio, Japan.—The Japanese battle cruiser Tsushima was destroyed by an explosion in the harbor of Yokosuka. Fire on the Tsushima caused the magazine to blow up.

One hundred and fifty-three members of the crew of the Tsushima were killed and 157 injured, many of them seriously. Numerous members of the ship's company were rescued from the water. Most of the officers of the cruiser were ashore.

The Tsushima was laid down in 1905 and displaced 13,750 tons. She was 440 feet long and was armed with four 12-inch, twelve 6-inch, twelve 4.7-inch and four 3-inch guns, three 3-pounders and five torpedo tubes. Her complement was 817 men.

### BEACHED CRUISER IS DOOMED

Paymaster Brings Off \$75,000 From  
Milwaukee, Now Being Battered  
By Waves.

Eureka, Cal.—The United States protected cruiser Milwaukee, which went ashore on Samara Beach, near here, while trying to pull off the stranded submarine H-33, cannot be refloated, it was announced here by J. D. Frazer, expert mechanical engineer, who at the solicitation of Lieut. W. F. Newton, in command, made a survey of the cruiser.

Navy salvagers, it also was announced, have abandoned efforts to raise the submarine H-33, which the Milwaukee was trying to pull off the beach when the big ship was swept ashore.

The paymaster of the Milwaukee returned to the ship and brought off \$75,000. Personal effects of the officers and men also were removed.

### Villistas Steal Bullion.

El Paso, Texas.—A band of bandits have been rounded up near Parral and discovered with \$500,000 in silver bullion, mostly the property of American mining companies. One concern is loser to the extent of \$275,000.

### Death Penalty Stricks.

Queretaro.—The attempt to abolish the death penalty in Mexico failed when the constitutional convention approved an article providing for the death sentence for treason, parricide, premeditated murder, arson, piracy, highway robbery and certain military offenses.

### Two Railway Officials Held.

Houston, Texas.—J. A. Shattuck, until recently cashier in the local office of the I. & G. N. R. R., and W. H. Stinner, assistant cashier, were arrested on warrants charging embezzlement. The railroad officials stated from \$14,000 to \$20,000 is missing.

### Poverty Makes Mayor Ineligible.

Fulton, Mo.—E. J. Stoker, a poor man, was the people's choice for mayor of this borough in the recent election. He won by a substantial majority over Herman Roeder, but Roeder will get the office as Stoker is unable to qualify, lacking property worth \$100.

### Sentenced to Apologize.

Lima, O.—A full public apology for his part in the rioting at the county jail last August was the sentence passed on Charles Kline, who pleaded guilty of attacking Sheriff Sherman Eley, with intent to lynch a negro prisoner.

### Dare for Daniels.

Philadelphia, Pa.—The Bethlehem Steel Co. has offered to build two battleships for the government at the same price it has to pay for the work in its own yards, and guarantees to have them in commission in a shorter time than is possible for the government to do.

### Autos Crash, 1 Dead, 3 Hurt.

Bloomington, Ill.—Nels Holst was killed and Frank Susfort, Charles Anderson and Rudolph Reddahl, all of Protection, were seriously injured when their automobile crashed into a concrete bridge abutment west of Paxton.

### Petition on Belgian Deportation.

Washington, D. C.—A petition from Massachusetts carrying 15,281 names, demanding severance of relations with Germany unless the Belgian deportations are stopped, was forwarded to the president.

### Campaign for Dry Congress.

Chicago.—Chairman Virgil G. Hinshaw has issued a call for a meeting of the national committee of the prohibition party in Chicago to plan a campaign for the election of a "dry" congress in 1918.

### Postman for 16 Years Quits.

Nashville, Ill.—Byron Truesdell, the first rural mail carrier of Washington county and for 16 years a carrier on route No. 1, Ashley, has resigned owing to failing eyesight. Truesdell is 69 years old.

### Silver Halts Coinage.

Washington.—Because of the high price of silver, Director of the Mint von Engelen has decided to buy no more of the metal at present to mint the new half dollars and quarters which are in such demand.

## NEW STATE AUDITOR UNDER INDICTMENT

WARREN COUNTY GRAND JURY  
RETURNS BILL AGAINST  
GEORGE E. HACKMANN

### CHARGED WITH IRREGULARITY

Political 'Not Claims by Victim—  
Settled As County Clerk With  
Court Last Week—No  
Prejudice.

### Jefferson City.

State Auditor George E. Hackmann, Republican, has gone to Warrenton to defend himself against two general indictments returned against him by the Warren county grand jury for irregularities charged against him during the last year as county clerk of Warren county.

He is charged with the misuse of public funds and making and swearing to false statements.

The result of the jury's findings came as a great surprise here and caused a decided sensation, for Hackmann had only been in charge of the state auditor's office since last Monday.

He was greatly surprised himself when informed of the indictments and expressed the opinion that they were the work of political enemies in Warren county, including both parties, and said he was well satisfied he could soon set himself right before the public.

Last week Hackmann settled with the county court and his settlement was approved, so he said.

Last year the financial affairs of Warren county were audited by the state auditor, and irregularities in the matter of fees collected by Hackmann were found to the extent of about \$900, but there was no charge of embezzlement. They were based upon technical findings as to what fees the clerk should or should not retain.

The circuit judge of Warren county has set the trial of the case for the second Monday in April, and the auditor was required to furnish bond in the sum of \$1,800.

The grand jury having been severely criticized by Hackmann's friends have issued a statement as follows:

"Our acts in this indictment were but what seemed to us an inevitable product of the consensus of the minds of 12 common people and citizens of Warren county, state of Missouri, commissioned to perform the duties imposed by the law of our land, and the consciences of men, and without any excuses to offer, the report is respectfully submitted."

### Interest on State Funds.

In his report to the general assembly, State treasurer E. P. Deal will show that his department has effected interest earnings during the four years he has been in office of \$411,553.62. This is by far the greatest amount the surplus state funds ever earned. The earnings during the previous four years were \$381,041.12 from the direct revenue and \$2,165.74 from the interest on the capital building funds.

Treasurer Deal induced the 1915 legislature to make several changes in the laws. One provided that a bank or trust company could bid for one-eighth of the funds. This opened competition and let the smaller ones in. It also resulted in increasing the rate from 3.25 to 3.75 per cent.

Another change enabled banks and trust companies to deposit approved farm mortgages as security. The old law provided for approved bonds.

### Court at Work.

Division No. 2 of the supreme court has completed the call of a January docket of the October term and the docket of the court in banc will be taken up this week.

### Left to Governor.

Leaders in the house have headed off the introduction of resolutions that had been drawn calling for an investigation of the penitentiary, and decided to leave the penitentiary house cleaning up to Gov. Gardner.

At a conference of Democratic leaders Frank Harris, floor leader, advised that action be postponed until the expiration of McClure's term as warden to see what action the governor would take.

### Electors Meet.

The Missouri presidential electors met in the office of the secretary of state and elected Ewing Y. Mitchell of Springfield to carry the Missouri vote for Woodrow Wilson to the electoral college in Washington.

### To Banish Nepotism.

The fight on nepotism in Missouri was launched in the house when Representative Frank H. Lee of Jasper county, a Democrat, introduced a measure making it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of from \$50 to \$1,000 and a jail imprisonment, for any officer, elective or appointive, to put any of his kindred on the public payroll.

The bill prohibits the appointment of relatives, including the third degree. This would keep close relatives off the payroll.

### Sports Getting Active.

Although race track gambling is dead in Missouri, there are those who believe it is not past resurrection. Soundings are being taken here as to the chances of passing a bill to give some color of law to a revival of race tracks and race track betting, particularly the latter.

The prize fight fraternity, too, is looking about to see if some modification of present laws cannot be obtained. It is a felony at present for a prize fighter to train in this state or to fight.

### Usual Number of Freak Bills.

The usual percentage of oddities and things unique in a legislative way have been presented in bills to the house of the forty-eighth general assembly.

During the last session Judge James Robinson, then representing Osage county, declared that he would introduce no bill unless by special request of some one in his county. And he didn't.

One of the unique bills presented is a relief measure introduced by Dr. A. H. Rickoff of Osage county to reimburse one of his constituents, a Henry Veltrop, who lost eight acres of cowpens last fall through the depredations of wild deer on his farm.

There are a number of bills providing for the payment of bounties for the killing of hawks and owls. The farmers say there is a pressing necessity for killing these birds of prey as they levy a heavy toll annually on the chicken crop.

Three hundred thousand dollars was set aside by the act appropriating money to build the capitol, but through an oversight there was no authority conferred on any of the commissions or state boards to expend any of the money for furniture.

Senator "Bob" Mitchell will introduce in the senate the coming week a bill amending the automobile law which will empower cities, towns and villages to regulate by ordinance the speed of automobiles and motor vehicles generally within their limits.

Speaker Drake Watson is not only one of the youngest men elected to the office he holds, but he is a bachelor and is the possessor of considerably more than the average amount of personal pulchritude. Society in Jefferson City has come to the conclusion that he is a confirmed bachelor.

### Names on "Lobby" List.

The record of legislative appearance in which all persons who come here to favor or oppose any legislation are required to register, to date contains the names of only 17 persons and a majority of these are representing different labor unions. With such a watchful crowd legislation adverse to organized labor stands little chance of passage.

### Farm Board Job for Roach?

Because of his summons to Washington by the Missouri delegation in congress it is believed in Jefferson City that former Secretary of State Cornelius Roach will be appointed a director in the federal farm loan bank when it is organized. Clark is the only congressman boasting another.

### To Consider Recommendations.

Gov. Gardner said that while he would make no pledge to be governed solely by the recommendations of party organizations in appointments to bipartisan boards, he would give serious consideration to such party recommendations.

The statement follows the recommendations to Gov. Gardner of St. Louisans for Republican places on the election board.

It is believed here that Gov. Gardner will follow the opposite party's desires in making his Republican appointments to all bipartisan boards.

### Fires Democrats.

Geo. E. Hackmann, Republican state auditor, discharged every Democratic employee in the auditor's office. There were eight clerks and two stenographers. Republicans were appointed in their places with one exception.

John A. Lee, bookkeeper in the treasurer's office for eight years and a Democrat, was appointed to one of the vacancies. None of the new clerks has yet been assigned to duty.

They are: Roy E. Curless of Hartsville; J. T. Waddill, Kirksville; Chas. E. Rader, Kansas City; Fred Goyert, Cape Girardeau; Wm. C. Robertson, Cassville; John H. Duncan, Springfield; C. F. Stephens, Maplewood, and J. W. Vossell, Lima.

This is the first time a state official ever made a clean sweep of a state office in the first two hours he occupied it.

### State Income Tax.

One of the first bills introduced in the senate will be a carefully drawn measure by Senator Jesse L. Duncan of Lincoln county. It will provide for the levying of an income tax in this state which will produce revenue for state purposes estimated at from \$2,500 to \$3,000,000 a year.

It provides for a 2 per cent tax on all incomes over \$500 per annum, with exceptions for men and wife that will allow them \$1,000 per year free of the imposition of the tax, and additional exemptions of \$100 per year for each child under 18 years of age.

### Week's Offerings.

At the close of the first week's business of this session of the legislature 252 bills had been offered in the lower house.

### State Printing Plant.

A resolution introduced in the house by Representative Lee provides for a vote on a \$100,000 bond to construct a state printing plant to do all state printing.

Representative Harris introduced eight bills looking to the revision of civil and criminal procedure. These bills have the recommendations of the State Bar Association and judges.

One bill provides for a commission of three for the court of appeals at St. Louis with powers to be similar to that of the supreme court.

### May Hold Up Appointments.

Gov. Frederick D. Gardner probably will request the state senate to return to him for consideration former Gov. Major's vacation appointments, which include police commissioners in St. Louis, Kansas City and St. Joseph, a supervisor of building and loans, a member of the public service commission, labor commissioner and members of several boards.

Several senators who talked with him said they believed the Major vacation appointments should be returned to Gardner "out of courtesy."

## HAPPENINGS of the week IN MISSOURI

Hannibal has solved her problem of fuel for the poor, and at a small cost. Fifteen city prisoners were working at the municipal wood yard, where they were cutting up old ties, furnished free by the Burlington